# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COAL
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4310
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
AFFORESTATION OF MINE AREAS
Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the afforestation around coal mine areas is undertaken by the CIL on a large scale to maintain the ecology of the mine areas;

(b) if so, the details of the areas where plantation was done in each of the last three years:

(c) the percentage of the Eucalyptus and the fructiferous tress planted in the coal mine areas;

(d) whether the Government is aware that Scientists and Botanists have declared Eucalyptus tree as agent of`cancer` and `asthma* diseases;

(e) if so, the reasons for plantation of Eucalyptus trees in the said areas;

(f) whether contracts have been given to outside agencies for the implementation of afforestation programme neglecting the local displaced people;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) if not, the details of priority given to the local displaced people in the said programme?

## Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a): Yes. Sir.

(b): The Subsidiary-wise details of the plantation in number / hectares in each of the last three years are as under:-

| Subsidiary of CIL (State) | 2002-03 | | 2003-04 | | 2004-05 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of Area Plant- ation | (In hec- tares) | No. of Area Plant- ation | (In hec- tares) | No. of Area Plant- ation | (In hec- tares) |
| BCCL (Jharkhand & WB) | 695,000 | 278 | 6,000 | 2.4 | 10,400 | 4.16 |
| CCL (Jharkhand) | 526,250 | 210.5 | 622,500 | 249 | 563,000 | 225.2 |
| ECL (Jharkhand &WB) | 190,600 | 76.24 | 212,500 | 85 | 119,000 | 47.5 |
| MCL (Orissa) | 216,000 | 86.4 | 75,000 | 30 | 243,768 | 97.51 |
| NCL (MP & UP) | 602,450 | 240.98 | 414,750 | 165.9 | 348,853 | 139.54 |
| NEC (Assam & Meghalaya) | 48,500 | 19.4 | 50,000 | 20 | 35,981 | 14.39 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SECL (MP & Chattisgarh) | 575,000 | 230 | 620,000 | 248 | 622,452 248.98 |
| WCL (Mahara- shtra & MP) | 650,000 | 260 | 630,000 | 252 | 510,000 204 |

ECL-Eastern Coalfields Limited, BCCL-Bharat Coking Coal Limited

CCL-Central Coalfields Limited, MCL-Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

NCL-Northern Coalfields Limited, SECL-South Eastern Coalfields Limited

WCL-Western Coalfields Limited

# MP-Madhya Pradesh, WB-West Bengal, UP-Uttar Pradesh

(c) to (e) : Eucalyptus trees are not being planted for last few years. Fructiferous plants are planted up to 10% of total plantation depending on the conditions prevailing in the areas.

Apprehensions of adverse effects of planting eucalyptus tress have been expressed in some quarters but nothing is reported to have been proved conclusively.

(f) to (h): In most cases the contracts have been given to State forest departments and corporations for the implementation of afforestation programme. Local displaced persons are engaged by these agencies, according to suitability of available persons for type of jobs.